

The Intelligencer.

Office: Nos. 25 and 27 Fourteenth Street

The River Railroad.

The Tyler Star in an interesting article on the contemplated railroad from this place to Pennsylvania, via Middlebourne, places too much confidence, it seems to us, in the aid to be received from Wheeling to prosecute the work. We may be wrong, but judging from the course pursued by Wheeling in the river railroad last year, if we wait for help from that quarter to build the road, it will not be built.

We do not intend to blame the capitalists and business men of Wheeling for their failure to realize the importance of a railroad in this direction, although we believe they were blind to their interests. But, if the people of Wheeling, Tyler and Ritchie counties shall permit this movement for a railroad from New Martinsville to Pennsylvania to fail, it will be a very serious neglect of duty, and deserving of the severest censure.

We have not the slightest doubt in regard to receiving all the outside aid that may be necessary. There never was a time before in the history of this country when there was so much capital seeking profitable investment, and let the people of this section be induced by their acts to go to the aid of the river railroad, so all they can do, and there will be no trouble in securing the remainder necessary to complete the work.

If the road shall be built, as contemplated, there will be no trouble in regard to the construction. Let Wheeling understand that unless she make connection with the road here that the trade and travel from all the rich sections of country that will be tributary to the New Martinsville, Middlebourne and Pennsylvania road, is likely to go in another direction. It will not be long before the connection is made.—Herald County Messenger.

It seems to us that the Messenger curiously misrepresents the whole status of the river railroad question. There never was any lack of interest in Wheeling regard to the project, and never a time when she would not have voted a liberal subscription to it, provided the country along the shore had shown any decided interest in the matter. It got to be understood here that neither Marshall, Wetzel nor Tyler would vote a subscription to it, and inasmuch as it was apparent that Ohio and Wood counties would virtually have to build the road, if it was built at all, the matter was dropped as impracticable for the present. If the Messenger imagines that Wheeling in any shape turned her back on this road it can be speedily undeceived by convincing our people that there is genuine live interest in the matter in the counties named. A response would not be aroused here. The trouble is not here, but along the route. It was only a few days ago that a prominent citizen of New Martinsville told us that there was really little or no interest in the road among many of the farmers on its immediate line. They do not want their farms cut up, and would not actually oppose the road. They take a very narrow view in regard to it, and have no idea of helping it along.

In regard to the merits of the road, there can be no two opinions among well informed people. It is excellent territory for a road, as is shown by the large, divided and profitable business done by the steamboats between here and Parkersburg. It would be a grand road for private capital as an investment, if not sooner built by the people immediately interested. At a season like this, as also in low water, it would do the entire business of both sides of the river, and the people would get so accustomed to quick and reliable transit that they would gradually concentrate on the railroad at all seasons of the year. At the same time they would always have the river as a competing route, and thereby make sure of satisfactory rates by rail.

We suggest to the Messenger that the proper thing to do is to educate public opinion on this project, and not lead it off on a road across the country from New Martinsville to Pennsylvania as a substitute for it.

The Victory of the Baltimore & Ohio Road over the Pullman Monopoly.

Our dispatches yesterday gave a meagre outline of the victory achieved by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company over the Pullman Patent Car monopoly by Judge Bond's decision. Suit had been brought by the Pullman Company in the United States Circuit Court in Baltimore against the railroad for an alleged infringement of their patent sleepers, and praying for an injunction against the road. Judge Bond filed the opinion of the Court refusing to grant the injunction. The importance of this victory to the Baltimore & Ohio Company is very great, but it is of small moment when compared with the benefits that will accrue to the traveling public generally. The principle underlying it, however, is of greater importance than either. The fight against the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company was made not so much against that company as to retain a monopoly of the sleeping car business by the Pullman Company over all the roads in the United States. The B. & O. was selected as the one upon which to make a test case, and in spite of itself it became a defender of the rights and interests of the people. The alleged infringement of the Pullman patent was set up not with the view of sustaining it, but to give an opportunity to appeal to the courts for protection against what seems to be an entering wedge which is destined to split the sleeping car monopoly in half. They claimed that they had expended large sums of money in erecting car works and in building cars of this kind for the accommodation of traveling public, and that if opposition sleepers were permitted to run over roads which are now or can be supplied by their large expenditures would be jeopardized, and the objects of their company defeated. They set themselves up as public benefactors and demanded that all obstructions to their complete control of the sleeping car business should be removed. They claimed the same right to operate in other spheres as they do in this, and almost immediately paraded similes.

She is high and dry at low water. Her cargo of grain is running out on the beach, but the cattle and pigs are being rescued by the steam tugs. No person drowned.

Weeked steamer.

LONDON, January 4.—The British steamer Brazilian, Captain Worthington, from Boston, December 31, for Liverpool, while entering the Mersey during a dense fog, at two o'clock this morning, ran on the rocks, and almost immediately parted in twain.

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FRANTIC FLAMES.

DEATH AND RUIN BROUGHT BY THE DEMON OF THE FIRE.

Horrible Casualty in a New York Tenement House, Surpassing in Terror and Destruction any Like Calamity in a Year—Narrowing Account of the Awful Affair.

New York, January 4.—At 8:15 this morning a fire broke out in a tenement house in the rear of James Doyle's liquor store, 35 Madison street. It started at the bottom of the stairs that furnished the only exit for the tenants in a five story house.

Its back door opens directly upon a narrow hallway in the rear of the tenement where the fire obtained its start. Plumbers were at work at the foot of the stairs thawing out the frozen water pipes, and for this purpose used gasoline. The vessel was by some means upset, and becoming ignited there was an explosion which blew in the door of the saloon. In an instant the black smoke rolled up along the stairway, drawn upward by a draught caused by an open window in the top story. There was a momentary flash as the frightened plumbers hurried into the yard. A man sitting by the bar-room stove slammed the hall door on the advancing fire. Immediately there was

A WILD RUSH OVERHEAD, and the sound of breaking glass, and the air was filled with the wails of imprisoned men and women, the shrieks of frightened children, and the cries for help of the bar-keeper and plumber, who ran through the street to a neighboring police station. Very soon the clangor of fire bells filled the air, and the narrow alley became thronged with firemen and police struggling to bring help to the imprisoned and burning tenants, but they came too late. The fire, finding vent through the open doors and windows of the untenanted ground floor of the house, and through the door, had seized upon the sluiters, window frames and wooden floors of the balconies outside, LICKING THEM UP LIKE SO MUCH TINDER PAPER.

reaching upward toward the floors, where the frightened men and women huddled together afraid to venture out upon the fire escape, which was itself aflame, while the flames within the house leaped higher and higher, till it lit the floors, and in less than five minutes swept through the stairway to the roof, cutting off the escape of a score of persons. The flames soon found vent also through two lower stories, and this barred egress by the fire escape.

THE TENANTS, PANIC-STROCKEN, made a rush for the roof, but the scuttles were firmly hooked and would not yield. Ascending, the flames drove the people back into their rooms, and the wildest confusion followed. Men and women threw their children from the windows and leaped after them through the flames that swept across the yard and set their clothing ablaze. When the firemen obtained the mastery the dead bodies of nine persons who had been burned were taken out from the building. Several were injured in their efforts to escape, and were sent to the hospital. The following is a list of the dead:

Ellen Sheridan, aged 43 years; Kate Sheridan, 14; Maggie Sheridan, 5; Martin Sheridan, 3; John Walsh, 13; Thomas Cassidy, 6; John Cassidy, 5; a girl, aged 2, and Mrs. Sheridan, age unknown.

Several persons were injured, among them James Cassidy, Mary Egan and Charles Walsh. The fire broke out in the city since the tenement house fire in Canal street a year ago, and the Turner Hall disaster about the same time, is approached through a narrow alley, hardly wide enough to allow the passage of a party man, between two tall tenements, Nos. 35 and 33 Madison street. In the front of the house was a large yard, which was speedily consumed. Eight families occupied the balance of the house, two on each floor. On the second floor the Egan and Muldoon had at the first alarm

ESCAPED THROUGH THE WINDOWS. Mrs. Mary Egan and her four grown children, Margaret, Thomas, Joseph and John, reached the ground in safety by a quick jump. Mary Muldoon, who is over eighty years old, was less fortunate. Seizing her two grandchildren, Annie, aged ten, and Kate, seven years old, she spring from the second story, but in the fall sprained or broke her leg, and crawled away with difficulty.

On the third floor Mr. Egan, who lived alone, escaped with his neighbors. The McKennan family also escaped by jumping. James, aged nine, Hugh, four, and the baby were thrown through a window by Charles McKennan, their oldest brother, a lad of fifteen years. The mother was sweeping the yard when the fire broke out. She rushed to the stairway, but was met by

SOLID MERE OF FLAMES, and realizing the danger of her children, roused them by shouting, before they knew of their danger. "Jump," "Charles, throw them down," the agonized mother cried, and stretched out her arms to receive them, as three little heads looked over the window sill beside their brother. The mother appealed to him to throw the children to her, and to jump himself, while the baby, frightened by the cries of the others, who were alarmed at the smoke, which was fast filling the room, constantly cried, with its little arms outstretched, "MAMA, MAMA."

The boy quickly measured the distance to the ground from his third story perch, and taking the baby up, dashed it out, and it fell into the arms of his mother, who also caught the other children as they were sent to her, one by one, and finally broke the fall of Charles as he leaped, and all escaped unhurt.

On the fourth floor lived the Cassidy family and another family of Egan. On the fifth, and topmost story, Mrs. Ellen Sheridan was at breakfast with four children. The men of the family, as well as all the others in the house, had gone to work. Mrs. Sheridan, at the first alarm, gathered together the children and sought escape by the stairs, but the fire had possession of them. There was

TRUTHFUL TRUTH.

IT CONFESSES THAT THE MOREY LETTER WAS A FORGERY.

And Examines its Credibility by Citing the Fact That Prominent Democrats Declared the Letter Was Spurious—It Admits That Everybody Else Asserted Long Ago.

New York, January 4.—The Truth today confesses that the Morey letter was a forgery, and publishes the following open letter to Garfield:

To James A. Garfield, President-elect:

SIR:—After a searching investigation, in which we have spared neither time, energy or expense, we have traced the Morey letter to its origin and ascertained that it is a forgery. This acknowledgment is due to you from the journal in which the letter first appeared. It is made voluntarily and as an act of simple justice, for while we believed, as we did until within a few weeks past, that you were the author of the letter, no bribe could tempt nor threat intimidate us into making a contrary statement; but, having ascertained our error, it is a gratification to us to give the same prominence to this acknowledgment that we gave to the forged letter itself. We are, therefore, at the same time, proud to make public the power for the wrong of which the Truth was the unconscious instrument. Upon the instant that our investigation convinced us that the letter was spurious we privately informed you of our conclusion. At that time you were asked that the justice of the case might be aided by a public avowal, such as we now make; but as will appear by the appended letter from B. G. Jayne, Esq., that consideration no longer exists, and we do today what an observance of the principles upon which the Truth was founded, and by which it has been conducted, would have impelled us to do immediately upon discovering that the letter was a forgery, and which nothing could then have prevented except the desire to fasten the guilt where it belongs. We are, therefore, in a good faith, believing that you were its author. While we so believed, neither temptation, threats nor force could influence us to repudiate it. Likewise, having not satisfied ourselves of its spurious character, we could not pride ourselves on having any kind of power to restrain us from announcing our conclusion, and thereby laying all doubt that now exists respecting its authenticity.

Respectfully yours,
The Truth.

[Here follows Jayne's letter.]

The paper adds editorially the following: To-day the Truth voluntarily proclaims the famous Morey letter a forgery. The Truth was established for the purpose of publishing the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, in all matters of public concern, and from the first issue neither effort nor expense has been spared to accomplish this high mission, regardless of whom it might hurt or whom it might help. But it is a mission too high for human honor or skill to accomplish. It is a mission that can only be approximated, though in aiming at perfection a higher standard may be reached than that of the journals which willfully distort or suppress facts, injudiciously affecting certain interests, and the result of such a course is to mislead the public. Upon this sentiment we have based our policy, and we are confident that the recognition of that possibility which distinguishes the Truth from its contemporaries. When the Morey letter came to us we believed it to be a genuine letter from James A. Garfield. Our belief became absolute conviction when we saw Randall, Senator Barnum, Orestes Cleveland, Abram S. Hewitt and other prominent members of the Democratic National Committee, all better able to judge than we, were so emphatically pronounced against it. Upon this sentiment we published it in a form best calculated to impress the conviction of its genuineness upon the people, and while we believed we were right, we were impervious to bribery and arm against the thousands of timid souls who were so easily swayed by the influence of the press. It was no influence on earth, neither so powerful enough to induce us to repudiate the letter. Believing it to be General Garfield's, the Truth could have been crushed out of existence, and no more would have been submitted to the most relentless prosecution rather than that it should be so. But when we saw that the letter was a forgery, we were out at the end, and single thick and double thick, we were forced to the light and the light revealed for the first time the fact that the original address upon the envelope had been erased and that of H. L. Morey substituted; when it appeared that the Lynn hotel register, containing the signature of H. L. Morey, had not been examined upon its pages, when it was given by the hotel proprietor to the agent of the Democratic Committee when he brought it here; when it appeared that the same agent had procured the statement of Samuel Morey, who falsely testified to the existence of H. L. Morey; when it appeared that the same agent was active in procuring the Lindsey affidavit in Maryland, which induced us to send for Mr. Lindsey, who proved to be a complete scoundrel; and when the photographic experiments with the Morey envelope proved that at least four addresses had been upon it, each erased in turn, except the last two, with acids, and the third with an instrument, then the Truth made every effort to solve the mystery, and ascertain the origin and history of the letter. In doing this we enlisted the services of B. G. Jayne, Esq., who is well known to the country as a special Treasury agent. Our investigations resulted in the discovery of a positive proof that the letter is an undoubted forgery. Having made that discovery we now announce it as prominently as we published the letter, that there may not remain a trace of the belief which we once held, and which we are now endeavoring to destroy.

Whitaker's Court Martial.

WASHINGTON, January 4.—The official report appointing a court martial for the trial of cadet Whitaker, was promulgated today. The detail for the court is as previously stated. The court is directed to meet in New York City, army building, January 20, instead of West Point on the 13th, as at first announced.

Taken as Usual.

DANVILLE, Va., January 4.—The excessive cold weather has broken up, and a great thaw set in this evening. The thermometer stands 43°. The night sets in with a warm rain falling, which seems likely to produce a great freshet.

Millions of People Starving to Death.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 4.—The Saratoff assembly reports that 750,000 peasants are starving in that province. It is stated that upwards of a million peasants are in absolute want in Samaria.

An Episcopalian Bishop Dead.

WILMINGTON, N. C., December 4.—Right Rev. Thos. Atkinson, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, died at his residence in this city this evening, aged 75 years.

GALL A GONER.

His Band of Indiana Surrendered and Captured by Major Igler's Troops.

St. Paul, Minn., January 4.—At a late hour at night, General Brock, Adjutant of the Department of Dakota, received the following telegram from Major Igler:

CAMP, POPLAR RIVER, January 2.
Via Ft. Buford, January 3.

To Assistant Adjutant General Brock:

After my talk with the Indians on the 31st of December, which led me to believe them to be sincere, they through the Chief of the Crow, sent me yesterday the very important message that they would not move, and would fight me if I moved against them. To-day I surrounded their camp, shelled them and compelled their surrender, killed one, wounded two and lost no soldiers.

I have now at the agency about three hundred hostiles, and about three hundred horses and forty guns. They threatened to fight, but showed none. They deserted their village, I burned up about sixty of their lodges, which will hurt them badly. I will start at daylight after the hostiles who have gone to the Yanktonias camp, about twelve miles distant. The Yanktonias, by six of their principal men, assisted me to-day, and were of great help, and I will give them some money. I have a Crow as a prisoner and will have the Crow to-morrow. These people are in great distress for want of food, and I will do what I can for them. The thermometer is 30° below zero.

Major First Infantry.

Gold and Silver Statistics.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 4.—Wells Fargo & Co.'s annual report of precious metals produced west of the Missouri river, including British Columbia, and the receipts in San Francisco by express from the west coast of Mexico, aggregate: gold, \$33,522,152; silver, \$4,005,364; lead, \$5,752,393; copper, \$306,903. Colorado leads with a total of \$21,281,031; California, \$15,278,163; Nevada, \$15,031,156; Utah, \$4,500,953; Arizona, \$4,472,471. In comparison with the products of 1879, California shows an increase in gold of \$579,579, and a decrease in silver of \$300,878. Nevada shows a total falling off of \$6,066,093.

Protection in the Dominion.

MONTREAL, CAN., January 4.—The Gazette this morning, commenting on the recent resolution of the American Congress to appoint commissioners to inquire into the advisability of reopening the question of reciprocity between the United States and Canada, approves of the commission, and says that the Government of this country will agree to the admission of American manufactures free of duty on any terms that would not also be offered to Great Britain. It says that protection has shown itself to be of great benefit to Canada, and will not likely be abandoned.

Death of an Old Citizen.

PARKERSBURG, January 3.—Mr. Henry Pao, one of the oldest citizens of the State, died last Saturday. The deceased was physically one of the largest and most powerful men of our Mountain State. No exact large enough to hold the remains could be obtained in this city, and a telegram to several firms in Cincinnati resulted in a failure to obtain a casket large enough, and one had to be built here. When completed it was seven feet six inches long, thirty-two inches across, and two feet in depth.

Crime at the Metropolis.

NEW YORK, January 4.—James Walsh, who killed Barbara Growenthal in Brooklyn last night, says he loved the girl, and her rejection of his suit maddened him. Walsh is now in jail.

A thief who had robbed the daughter of William P. Sheldon, banker, No. 44 Remson street, Brooklyn, of wedding gifts, was found unconscious and lying on the floor of an unoccupied house adjoining the Sheldon residence, and was carried through a sky-light.

The Alleged Governor Porter.

NEW YORK, January 4.—Miss Cornelia Stone, who is to marry Governor Porter, of Indiana, is a resident of Cuba, N. Y., and not of this city, though she is now here at the house of her sister, the wife of the well-known lawyer Col. A. C. DeLoach. Porter's recent death in the latter's family the lady's marriage was announced from the residence of her cousin, Walter Garnee, Fifth avenue. The bride and groom first met only a year ago at the home of a mutual friend in Washington.

Brewery Burned.

PITTSBURGH, January 4.—The brewery of F. Lober & Brothers, Allegheny City, having a capacity of 12,000 barrels of beer annually, was totally destroyed by fire about seven o'clock this morning. The fire started in the west end of the building and burned on fiercely and rapidly that when the engines arrived it was beyond their control. Loss \$15,000, on which there is an insurance of \$17,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

First Rotten Won by the Western Union.

PHILADELPHIA, January 4.—In the United States Circuit Court, Judge Butler granted a preliminary injunction restraining the Pennsylvania Railroad Company from interfering with the wires and offices of the Western Union Telegraph Company along the route of the railroad until the case can be fully heard in the same court. Judge McKennan and Butler on the 17th inst.

Suit for Damages.

STREUNVILLE, January 4.—Mrs. Sleeker of Island Creek township, this county, yesterday, through her attorney, W. A. Owens, brought an action against Dr. Philip A. Walker, of Sloan's Station, to recover \$15,000 damages for malpractice in a case of cholera. Dr. Walker was defendant in a malpractice case two years ago for improperly setting a broken leg.

STATE LAW GIVERS.

MEETING OF VARIOUS LEGISLATURES YESTERDAY.

Organization of the Pennsylvania Bodies Indicative of Oliver's Success in the Senatorial Contest—An Odd Sort of Conscience—Ohio, New York.

COLUMBUS, O., January 3.—The General Assembly met this afternoon and listened to the reading of the annual message from Governor Foster. The message is of the usual length, and treats many topics. Among other things, Governor Foster says of the funded debt that it aggregates \$4,476,805, and of this amount \$4,720,640 is payable after June 30th, 1881. On November 15th, last, there was in the sinking fund, \$923,761, which will be increased by the February settlements, and it is safe to assume that by anticipating the August settlements, the debt maturity July next, can be reduced to \$3,000,000. In order to pay this debt, and comply with the constitutional requirements, the Governor recommends the issue of \$4,000,000 in 4 per cent. bonds, interest payable semi-annually, \$200,000 of which is to mature every six months commencing on the first of next January. These bonds are to be sold at not less than their par value. The Governor states that he thinks the present levy 5-10 of 1 mill for interest on sinking fund purposes can be adopted for the remaining debt. Two and one-half millions of the State debt mature in 1880, and thus on or before July, 1881, all the debt can be constitutionally paid. The message calls most earnestly upon the Assembly to impose restraint upon any advancing tendency toward an increase in local indebtedness. The public works are reported in a prosperous condition, the receipts from tolls and water rents last year having been \$236,988, and the expenditures—some of an unusual character, owing to floods—at \$223,642.

The message says a marked improvement has taken place in the general tone of the business of the State, and a recommendation is made that the pay of the militia be increased and a more liberal appropriation made for them.

In referring to the State charitable institutions, the Governor says he has endeavored to have a session with the board of directors, and that with one exception all the several boards of directors are made up of three of the dominant and two of the minority party. The Governor says the institutions cannot be properly conducted financially until some uniform system of book-keeping is adopted. The Governor recommends that an Advisory Board of Paroles be established. He says the State University is increasing in usefulness, and preliminary steps have been taken to establish a chair of the history and antiquities of the State. He also made that an experimental station be established in connection with the University.

The Governor says no additional legislation seems to be required in relation to graded schools, but that the question could be materially improved by proper legislation. The recommendation is made that the question of a geological survey for economic purposes, be carefully considered. The recommendation is made that an Assistant State Mine Inspector be provided for, and that the salary of the Secretary of State be fixed by law, and all fees be paid into the treasury that the salary of the Railroad Commissioner be increased, and that he be authorized to employ competent engineers.

The Governor says the railroads in Ohio have a prosperity that was never before equalled; that the freight rates are not burdensome, yet in some localities discrimination in rates is complained of; that the consolidation of several roads and control thus secured by the great trunk lines cause some alarm, especially among the agricultural classes, and a recommendation is made that legislative action be had to prevent extension of the same. The Governor recommends the appointment of a commission of 5 persons, two of them to be sworn in, to investigate the life and two fire insurance and a commission to investigate the Mutual Aid Association in place under such control as will at least restrict them to their legitimate business. It is also recommended that steps be taken at once to provide for building a Governor's dwelling.

PENNSYLVANIA.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 4.—The first biennial session of the Pennsylvania legislature was held to-day. The Republican caucus nominees were elected officers. In great numbers the members were met by E. B. Cox, Dem., from Luzerne county, declining to take the "iron-clad" oath. He made a long statement showing that he had used money in securing his own election, and, therefore, could not conscientiously take the oath. The Governor's message was read to the Assembly to-day. It recommends that the Legislature take such action as is necessary to make an impression upon the proposed Centennial observances at York, Pa., and give to them the promise of an enthusiastic participation by the people of Pennsylvania. He calls attention to the legislation necessary to the reappointment of the State into legislative, judicial and Congressional districts, and also for a bill to refund the public debt to mature in 1882. The estimated revenues for the fiscal year ending November 30th, 1881, are \$5,404,000, and the estimated expenses for the same period are \$5,399,088. In the general fund there is a deficit of \$1,043,000, which if added to the present deficit in the appropriations unpaid is \$1,043,000 will leave a deficiency of \$1,814,000 to be provided for in 1881.

NEW YORK.

ALBANY, N. Y., January 4.—The State Legislature met to-day. General George H. Sharpe, Republican, was re-elected Speaker. Erastus Brooks received the votes of the Democrats.

Gov. Cornell, in his message, sets forth the condition of the finances, the canal, banks, charitable institutions, the debt, and briefly discusses the subjects of taxation, public education and prisons. The Governor thinks a further reduction in the rate of interest not inadvisable, and suggests that the excise and lottery laws be thoroughly revised.

INDIANA SENATORSHIP.

INDIANAPOLIS, January 4.—The Legislature of Indiana will convene on Thursday next, and the hotels are already crowded with members and candidates for the various offices to be filled. The regular caucuses will be held to-morrow night. An informal meeting of the Republican Senators was held to-night, but no nominations made. The prominent Republican candidates for Speaker of the House are Judge Lindley, of Hamilton county; Hon.

J. B. Kenner, of Wabash county, and W. M. Redpath, of Clay county.

The Senatorial caucus will probably not be held until after the inauguration of Governor Porter, which takes place next Monday.

General Br. Harrison's friends claim that he will receive the party nomination on the first ballot.

Other prominent candidates are Hon. Wm. Cumbach and Hon. Godlove S. Orth, of California.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 4.—The Republican members of the Senate and Assembly met in a joint caucus this evening, and on the first ballot nominated Gen. John F. Miller, for United States Senator. The vote stood Miller 64, Senator Booth, 6.

MAINE'S GOVERNOR.

AUGUSTA, January 4.—It is intimated that a caucus of the Republicans will be held to caucus on the gubernatorial question. While the Republicans from Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford counties favor the seating of Plaisted at once, those from the eastern portion and many from the middle and western sections desire to move cautiously. The members to-day expressed a desire to submit to the judges the question of the re-entire clause in the constitutional amendment adopted last September.

THE IRISH SITUATION.

Continuance of the State Trials—Resolutions by the Dublin Corporation—Fears of the Fenians.

DUBLIN, January 4.—The attendance at the trial of the traversers to-day is scanty and the proceedings monotonous. The sub-committee who took notes at a meeting in Mayo caused much laughter by admitting that he had much trouble in transcribing them, and that he had never reported a meeting before.

The proceedings to-day principally consisted of the cross-examination of two members of the constabulary, who had been employed as government stenographers, on their evidence concerning the figures delivered by Farnell, Dillon, Biggar, Byrton and others, in regard to the refusal of the rents, Boycotting, etc. The cross examination was very effective. The witnesses admitted that they were merely amateurs and were unable to make a verbatim report. One of them admitted that it was nearly impossible that he omitted sentences which might have qualified or explained those he reported. He said he had once falsely represented himself to be a newspaper reporter. Farnell was cheered as usual on his withdrawal.

It was said the meeting fixed for Sunday next near Castellar had been prohibited. At a meeting of the corporation, a motion by E. Dwyer Gray that a petition be presented by the Lord Mayor of Dublin at the bar of the House of Commons calling attention to the laws affecting the tenure of proprietorship of land in Ireland, and the general condition of the country, and to the necessity for a radical reform in these laws, was unanimously adopted.

The War Office, by the direction of the War Office, a great quantity of the armories of the volunteers in the north of London, in consequence of news of a contemplated Fenian attempt to seize arms. Last night was supposed to be the time appointed for the execution of the plot, but no overt act was committed, the suspicious has yet come to light.

DUFFIN'S DEDUCTIONS.

LONDON, January 4.—Lord Dufferin has published a paper on the Irish land question, in which he strongly condemns the "Three R" system (fair rents, free sales and fixity of tenure), pointing out that the sale of the tenant's interests has a tendency to saddle holders perpetually with double rent, and says the system, if granted, would only further encourage a new set of agitators to endeavor to dispossess the landlords of the remaining vestiges of their rights.

Lord Dufferin favors the system copied from that adopted at the enfranchisement of the Russian serfs. He says: "Buying up of a large portion of land in Ireland and the conversion of rents into land charge payable to the State for the chronically poverty stricken districts of the west. He recommends the great system of State aided insurance to be introduced in the north-west of Canada, to be worked with the cooperation of the Dominion Government, as supreme in those parts, and the clergy of Ireland would not oppose emigration thither as they do emigration to the United States."

The Times remarks that Lord Dufferin's suggestions, although interesting, do not forecast the land bill of the Government, will not make grants from the exchequer or pledge the credit of the country.

WEST VIRGINIA WICKEDNESS.

Late Encounters with Koughs in Logan County.

CATLETTSBURG, KY., January 4.—John Oohn, a desperado refugee from Elliott county, this State, was shot on Marlboro County, Logan county, West Virginia, last Saturday, by Aaron Brewer. The weapon used was an Enfield rifle. Oohn is doubtless dead by this time. He was shot by the sheriff of Elliott county a few months since while resisting arrest. He fired on the sheriff several times, and would have killed him had not a small tree, behind which the sheriff had taken refuge, stopped three of his bullets.

News has just reached here of an awful straggling that took place on a Mate Creek, in Logan county, during which forty or fifty actors were killed. Captain Hatfield, a noted bully, was killed, and several wounded. It was a continuation of a series of attacks between the Bowers and Dampeys on one side and Hatfields on the other. The end is not yet.

Boys' Fatal Fight.

PHILADELPHIA, January 3.—A lad named John B. Evans, 15 years old, was fatally stabbed last night at Fourth and Redwood, by M. Dorf, aged 14. Dorf had been sent to the bakery for bread and was accused on the street corner by Evans, who struck him in the face and knocked him in the gutter.

Dorf says he struck Evans in self defense, but denies that he used a knife. When Evans was struck he ran to a drug store, but dropped on the threshold. An examination of the wound showed that a pocket-knife had severed an artery about the breast bone. Dorf says that Evans invariably tormented him when he met him on the street.

GENERAL FOREIGN NOTES.

Germany talks of adopting the American policy of protection.

Amity is said to be restored between Egypt and Abyssinia, and the roads connecting the two countries ordered reopened.

The Panama Star and Herald of December 28th says the foreign fleet will shortly be the most powerful ever seen in the Pacific. Her British Majesty's ship Grafton, recently in the Pacific, is reported in quarantine at Montevideo with yellow fever on board.